



The Halifax Amateur Radio Club

# REFLECTOR

PO BOX 663  
HALIFAX NS  
B3J 2T3

November 2005 Volume 66 Number 9

club web site is [www.halifax-arc.org](http://www.halifax-arc.org)



**2005 is the Year of the Veteran**  
**November 11 is Remembrance Day**



HARC Club Station phone number - 490-6421

#### Our executive and committees.

Position Name & Call Sign	Phone #	E-Mail
President - Bill Elliott, VE1MR	865-8567	ve1mr@rac.ca
First V.P. - Fraser MacDougall VE1WO	865-4198	ve1wo@rac.ca
2nd V.P. - Darryll Perrin, VE1HUP	826-1439	ve1hup@rac.ca
Secretary - Howard Dickson, VE1DHD	823-2024	dhdickson@hfx.eastlink.ca
Treasurer - John Goodwin, VE1CDD	865-5731	ve1cdd@rac.ca
Member at Large, Tom Caithness, VE1GTC	477-7081	tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca
Club Station Mgr. - Pat Kavanaugh, VE1PHK		ve1phk@rac.ca
Past President - Dick Grantham, VE1AI	434-8046	ve1ai@rac.ca

#### Committees/Offices/Prime Contacts

Public Relations: Wayne Harasimovitch, VE1WPH	832-3660	ve1wph@rac.ca
IPARN and Brit Fader Memorial QSL Bureau Manager - Bob Burns, VE1VCK	865-9414	ve1vck@rac.ca
EMO Coordinator - Dave George, VE1AJP	466-8723	dgeorge@dal.ca
Reflector editor - Lynn Bowser, VE1ENT	865-8567	ve1ent@rac.ca
Reflector Dist. - Tom Caithness, VE1GTC	477-7081	tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca
Membership - Tom Caithness, VE1GTC	477-7081	tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca
Web page - Rob Ewert, VE1KS,	826-1705	ewertr@hfx.eastlink.ca
Basic ham course - Scott Wood, VE1QD	823-2761	ve1qd@rac.ca
EMO Trailer Assembly coord - David Musgrave, VE1EDA	435-4333	ve1eda@rac.ca
Flea market 2006 Chair' man - Murray MacDonald, VE1MMD	876-0661	ve1mmd@rac.ca
Field Day coordinator - Howard Dickson	823-2024	dhdickson@hfx.eastlink.ca
RAC Asst Director - Wayne Marchand, VE1WJM,	860-1580	ve1wjm@rac.ca
NSARA Director - Scott Wood, VE1QD	823-2761	ve1qd@rac.ca
Frequency coordinator for Nova Scotia - Bev Reynolds, VE1TL		

#### Take-15 Net Controllers

**NOTE: There have been some changes.** This will be the rotation. If you cannot take the net on your particular evening get in touch with one of the others and trade places with them. If I have left any one off the list, or you want to join, please let Bill, VE1MR, know.

Nov. 13	Doug	VE1LDL	Dec. 18	Pierre	VE1PTR
Nov. 20	Dave	VE1EDA	Dec. 25	Tom	VE1GTC
Nov. 27	Charles	VE1MCR	Jan. 1	Herb	VE1HX
Dec. 4	Herb	VE1HX	Jan. 8	Win	VE1WIN
Dec. 11	Chris	VA1CDB	Jan. 15	Peter	VE1PJW
			Jan. 22	Doug	VE1LDL



**Deadline for submissions  
to the January Reflector is  
Saturday, January 7, 2006**

#### NOTICE

**The Dartmouth repeater autopatch now requires  
an access code. Contact John, VE1WZ at 434-7095**

The **Annual Meeting** of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club will take place Wednesday, November 16, 2005 at 1930 hours (7:30 PM), at the former Bloomfield School building (corner of Almon and Agricola streets). The meeting will be held in the Multi-Purpose Room. Please be present to elect the HARC executive for the coming year. A quorum is essential.

Guests are welcome.

#### FOR SALE

The club is selling a Mosely TA-33JR 3 element triband HF beam - 10-15-20M. Asking \$150 or reasonable offer. Contact Fraser, VE1WO at 865-4198 or ve1wo@rac.ca

#### NOTICE

We are looking for people interested in getting fall arrest certification for tower climbing. The next certification will probably be October 2006. If interested please contact an executive member

#### GENERAL INFORMATION



**TAKE-15 NET:** Sunday evenings at 8:30 PM on VE1PSR/VHF

#### CLUB REPEATERS:

VE1PSR/VHF - 147.270 MHz +  
VE1PSR/UHF - 444.350 MHz +  
VE1PSR/6M - 53.550 MHz -  
access tone 151.4 Hz  
VE1HNS - 146.940 MHz -

#### PACKET:

VE1NSD 145.050 MHz LAN NODE  
VE1BBS - Local packet BBS  
accessible through the LAN

*Events for Your Calendar*

A **Basic Amateur Radio Course** began on Thursday, 15 September at the Club station room. Course coordinator is Scott Wood, VE1QD.

Interested in learning CW or improving your CW skills? Starting in early November Gary, VE1RGB, will conduct **CW training** on Monday evenings. Contact Gary to join the class.

December 21 HARC Christmas Party  
January 29, 2006 – VE1BBL Memorial Contest (CW)

February 12, 2006 – VE1ALB Memorial Contest (SSB)

2006 NSARA Picnic & AGM – Hosted by the Yarmouth Amateur Radio Club. Tentative date is the 2nd Saturday in August  
Contact Bernie, VE1UT. Check the NSARA website for developments.

The next NSARA general meeting will be at the DownEast Fleamarket, mid-May, 2006.

DARC Christmas breakfast will be Saturday, December 17, 9AM at the Steak & Stein on Portland St. in Dartmouth

**HARC Christmas Party**

**2005** The lead time for planning a dinner get together is suddenly very short so tentative reservations have been made for Dec.21 with China Town Restaurant (Bedford Highway). They have a party room which seats about 60. You can look over their party menu on their web site at

[www.chinatownrestaurant.ca](http://www.chinatownrestaurant.ca)

Their party menu price range is from \$13 to \$17. Think it over and we'll talk about it at the November meeting



*Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.*

**2006 AMSAT Symposium**

Project OSCAR is to host the 2006 AMSAT Symposium in the San Francisco Bay area in October, '06. Emily Clarke, W0EEC will serve as host chairperson and will coordinate the Symposium. Project OSCAR began building the first amateur satellites in the Bay Area."

In addition to the AMSAT Symposium, San Francisco is planned as a joint meeting with the ARISS International Delegates.

Details about exact dates and hotel for the 2006 Symposium will be posted on the AMSAT website as they become available.

The AMSAT-NA Web site is <http://www.amsat.org>

**Where to get Callbooks**

The Maritime Provinces Callbook 2004 is available at Cohoon's Appliance Service at 109 Ilsley Ave. in Burnside Industrial park during their open hours of 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM Monday through Friday and Saturdays 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. If you hear someone from out of town asking where they can get a callbook then this is probably their best bet on short notice.

Hi All, The NSARA has the ability to program many of the commercial radios found on ebay or from local sources. If you are an NSARA Member the programming is a nominal \$10.00 donation. Non Member \$20.00. All monies go towards Amateur Radio Projects.

Regards, 73, Tom Cohoon VE1TA  
President of NSARA, 2005-2006

**Are you up to date with your HARC membership dues?**

Yearly rates are as follows:

Full = \$25      Associate = \$15  
Family (2 members) = \$35 + \$10 for each additional family member at same address (only 1 newsletter)



**Congratulations** to Jason, VE1PLF, and his wife on the birth of their daughter, "Kyle"



**Field Day Results**  
**HARC came**  
**number 1 OVER-ALL**  
**in the 2F category**

**To all Amateur Radio Ops in the Maritimes**

The Maritime Contest is on again so get your old key hooked up and dust off the mike ...

Many hams in the Maritimes will be glad to hear that the Maritime Contest (known in the pre-VE9 days as the VE1 contest) is happening again this coming winter. The Fundy Club is sponsor, and here are the details

January 29, 2006 –CW section (VE1BBL Memorial Contest)

February 12, 2006 – SSB section (VE1ALB Memorial Contest)

Both sections are on 80m, open to hams in the 3 Maritime provinces only.

Times: 7 – 11 AM and 2 – 6 PM local time

Exchange is: callsign, name, RST, county,. Province and serial #.

Scoring: 6 points / QSO (1 point per correct exchange item) and the counties are multipliers. Also, the Memorial Stations will be a multiplier.

A plaque will be awarded for the first place in each section and certificate will be awarded for the 20+ CW and 40+ SSB contacts.

Entries within 30 days to:

Avery Crowell, VE1HS

P.O. Box 82

Digby, NS B0V 1A0

[ve1hs@rac.ca](mailto:ve1hs@rac.ca)

HARC has **Anderson Powerpole connectors** for sale at \$1.25 each (one red and one black connector for one complete end ). A complete mating pair requires 2 connectors. Place orders with Tom Caithness, VE1GTC;  
[tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca)

Visit [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Canadian\\_Amateur\\_Radio\\_Group/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Canadian_Amateur_Radio_Group/)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well here it is, another year and the Annual General Meeting is upon us. This past year has been very busy both for the club and personally. There were a great many Club activities. Member participation was high and many members enjoyed helping and operating at these events. The coming year is already shaping up to be another busy year for the club. The current executive is putting together committees and plans to hand over to the new executive.

Also coming up is the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our club. Planning will begin in 2006 for special activities and events in 2008. I have written more information on this elsewhere in this newsletter.

It has also been tentatively decided to put off for one extra year the publication of another callbook. This will allow us to produce a 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary callbook in 2008 with the usual updates but also including more information on other aspects of the hobby. If there are subjects or information you would like to see included in a new callbook please let the executive know. We can't promise that all ideas will be incorporated into the special edition but we will certainly be including an abundance of new items.

73 - Bill, VE1MR

## PRACTICAL HF OPERATING

How is operating on HF different than operating on VHF/UHF? If you are not clear on the difference then the following may be of interest.

The executive will draft an outline of how the Club might provide the necessary instruction and guidance to ensure that these new HF operators are:

1. able to effectively operate on the HF bands;
2. capable of safely operating the HF equipment in the Club Station.

If you have any ideas, needs or other input, please contact Fraser, VE1WO at 865-4198 or [ve1wo@rac.ca](mailto:ve1wo@rac.ca)

We are hoping to hold this early in the new year. This will likely be held on a Saturday and be in two half day sessions, one theoretical and one practical.

The HRM EMO/ham Advisory Committee Web page is at [www.ve1hre.ca](http://www.ve1hre.ca)



### Puzzler- Do You Know?

What is Doherty Modulation?

Answer to puzzler is on page 9

*If people evolved from apes, why are there still apes?*

## 75th ANNIVERSARY

The Halifax Amateur Radio Club will be celebrating the 75th anniversary of operation in 2008. From what we can determine from various records the Maritime Amateur Radio Association was renamed the Halifax Amateur Radio Club in 1933. The Maritime Amateur Radio Association was active in the early 1920s and 1930s, so with the renaming, our club is one of the oldest in Canada. Our club was possibly one of the very few that held regular meetings all through the Second World War which may make us the oldest continuously operating club in Canada. Other clubs were certainly formed earlier in all parts of Canada but most if not all shut down between 1939 and 1945.

With 2008 being a significant anniversary, we should try to celebrate this event in several ways.

- a) various special events
- b) special edition CALLBOOK
- c) special call prefix for club members

If we are to do some of these things we need a **75th Anniversary chairman** to help co-ordinate things. Also, to be able to organize some of these significant events, planning should start this year. A complete committee should be assembled during 2006 in preparation for 2008

Use your imagination and suggest some special activity to celebrate. Think about what you can do to help.

There has been a volunteer to edit a 75th anniversary callbook for 2008. Planning will start in 2006.

The Halifax Amateur Radio Club is one of the most active clubs in North America and certainly one of the larger clubs in Canada. I think our members can show what we can do when we put effort into something.

Thank you. – Bill Elliott, VE1MR

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT!

As of Nov. 12, 2005, Peter, VE1PJW has reported nominations for the following positions with perhaps more to come.

President: - Bill Elliott, VE1MR

1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President: -

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: - Howard Dickson, VE1DHD

Treasurer: Fraser - MacDougall, VE1WO

Secretary: Murray - MacDonald, VE1MMD

Station Manager: - Brian Allan, VE1AZV

Director-at-Large: - Craig MacKinnon, VE1JMA



**Autumn ITU meetings studying HF allocations completed**

From October 5 to 14 delegates from around the world met in Geneva Switzerland to discuss, among other things, possible expansion of short wave broadcasting bands in the range from 4 to 10 MHz, the potential impact of BPL on shortwave broadcast reception, and the role of broadcasting in disaster warning and relief.

The study of the HF bands between 4 and 10 MHz, and a broadcast request for up to 800 kHz of new broadcast band spectrum in the range, made considerable progress, although strong disagreement between Europe and North America still exists. At this stage in the discussions, there have been no proposals for using part of the 40 metre Amateur band to meet the broadcast requirement, and there was also no talk, for now, of removing European and Asian Broadcasters from the top 100 kHz of the band. Likewise, there have been no formal discussions of a possible 60 metre amateur band, or any changes to the 30 metre band.

The deadline for completion of the studies is September 2006. The results will be assembled into a report for use by delegates at the World Radio Conference in 2007.

During the meetings, delegates also developed a draft recommendation on protecting broadcast receivers from BPL interference. Although it does not directly concern amateur radio, approval of the recommendation would encourage countries to take a more serious look at potential BPL interference to all services in the HF range.

VE3PU was a member of the Canadian delegation, and represented the IARU in HF broadcast discussions on 4- 10 MHz, BPL and disaster communications. The next series of meetings are scheduled to begin in March 2006.

Canadian\_Amateur\_Radio\_Group@yahoogroups.com  
On Behalf Of Sohail Anjum - VE3ITU

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 24, No. 42  
October 28, 2005.

**ARRL 2005 HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE**

The ARRL has partnered with the Salvation Army for 2005 Holiday Toy Drive appeal for children in the coastal areas of Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana left homeless or displaced in the aftermath of hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

As it still has the facilities to manage a large toy drive, The Salvation Army will handle the distribution end of the program. Between now and December 10, the ARRL is encouraging ham radio operators throughout the US to purchase new, unwrapped toys for children ages 1 through 4 and send them with a QSL card to ARRL Toy Drive/The Salvation Army, 1775 Moriah Woods Blvd--Suite 12, Memphis, TN 38117-7125.

**Ham's Night Before Christmas**

T'was the night before Christmas, and all through two-meters,  
Not a signal was keying up any repeaters.

The antennas reached up from the tower, quite high,  
To catch the weak signals that bounced from the sky.

The children, Tech-Pluses, took their HTs to bed,  
And dreamed of the day they'd be Extras, instead.



Mom put on her headphones, I plugged in the key,  
And we tuned 40 meters for that rare ZK3.

When the meter was pegged by a signal with power.  
It smoked a small diode and, I swear, shook the tower.

Mom yanked off her phones, and with all she could muster  
Logged a spot of the signal on the DX Packet Cluster,

While I ran to the window and peered up at the sky,  
To see what could generate RF that high.

It was way in the distance, but the moon made it gleam -  
A flying sleigh, with an eight element beam,

And a little old driver who looked slightly mean.  
So I thought for a moment, that it might be Wayne Green.

But no, it was Santa, the Santa of Hams.  
On a mission, this Christmas to clean up the bands.

He circled the tower, then stopped in his track,  
And he slid down the coax right into the shack.



While Mom and I hid behind stacks of CQ,  
This Santa of hamming knew just what to do.

He cleared off the shack desk of paper and parts,  
And filled out all my late QSLs for a start.

He ran copper braid, took a steel rod and pounded  
It into the earth, till the station was grounded.

He tightened loose fittings, re-soldered connections,  
Cranked down modulation, installed lightning protection.

He neutralized tubes in my linear amp...  
(Never worked right before -- now it works like a champ).

A new low-pass filter cleaned up the TV,  
He corrected the settings in my TNC.



He repaired the computer that would not compute,  
And he backed up the hard drive and got it to boot.

Then, he reached really deep in the bag that he brought,  
And he pulled out a big box, "A new rig?" I thought!

"A new Kenwood? An Icom? A Yaesu, for me?!"  
(If he thought I'd been bad it might be QRP!)

Yes! The Ultimate Station! How could I deserve this?  
Could it be all those hours that I worked Public Service?

He hooked it all up and in record time, quickly  
Worked 100 countries, all down on 160.

I should have been happy, it was my call he sent,  
But the cards and the postage will cost two month's rent!



(Continued on page 7)



Go to URL

<http://www.qsl.net/n9bor/morse.htm>

That link will take one to absolutely everything -- EVERYTHING! a person would ever want to know about CW, including formats for typical messages, etc.

Gary, VE1RGB

As with the English language there are many ambiguities among Q signals. The meanings for many of the Q signals have evolved with usage over the years. Many of them have evolved from sentences to words. For example QTH KIT-TANNING, PA means My location is Kittanning, PA. However it is commonly (erroneously?) used as MY QTH IS KITTANNING, PA using QTH as a noun. Most Q signals can be used as questions as well as statements. The following table lists the more commonly used Q signals with their traditional meanings as a question and as a statement.

This list courtesy of K3WWP's Ham Radio Activities <http://home.alltel.net/johnshan/>

Q Signal	Used As a Question	Used As a Statement
QRG	What is my (his) frequency?	Your (His) frequency is -----
QRH	Does my frequency vary?	Your frequency varies
QRI	How is the tone of my transmission?	Your tone is 1 (good) 2 (variable) 3 (bad)
QRJ	Are you receiving me badly? Are my signals weak?	I cannot receive you. I receive you badly
QRK	What is the readability of my (his) signals?	Your (His) readability is (1)unreadable to (5)perfect
QRL	Is this frequency busy?	This frequency is in use
QRM	Are you being interfered with?	I am interfered with
QRN	Are you troubled by static?	I am being troubled with static
QRO	Must I increase power?	Increase power
QRP	Can I decrease power?	Decrease power
QRQ	Shall I send faster?	Send faster ----- WPM
QRS	Shall I send slower?	Send slower ----- WPM
QRT	Shall I stop sending?	Stop sending
QRU	Have you anything for me?	I have nothing for you
QRV	Are you ready?	I am ready
QRX	When will you call me again?	I will call you again at -----
QRZ	Who is calling me?	You are being called by ---
QSA	What is the strength of my (his) signals?	Your (His) strength is (1)barely perceptible - (5)very good
QSB	Are my signals fading?	Your signals are fading
QSL	Can you acknowledge receipt?	I acknowledge receipt
QSO	Can you communicate with -----?	I can communicate with -----
QSP	Will you relay to -----?	I will relay to -----
QST	-	Calling all radio amateurs
QSV	Shall I send a series of V's?	Send a series of V's
QSX	Will you listen to ----- on ----- kHz?	I am listening to ----- on -----kHz
QSY	Shall I change frequency?	Change frequency to -----
QSZ	Shall I send each word twice?	Send each word twice
QTH	What is your location?	My location is ----
QTR	What is the time?	The time is -----

From the ARRL Letter  
Vol. 24, No. 32

August 19, 2005

NEXT ISS "SPACE  
TOURIST"

The next "space tourist" to visit the International Space Station is, once again, an Amateur Radio licensee. Greg Olsen, KC2ONX, of Princeton, New Jersey

Olsen, who is co-founder and chairman of the board of Sensors Unlimited Inc in Princeton, said he's looking forward to finalizing the remote sensing and astronomy research projects he plans to conduct while in space.

According to Space Adventures, Olsen, 60, is a native of Brooklyn, New York and holds a PhD in materials science. He founded Sensors Unlimited in 1991

Headquartered in Alexandria, Virginia, Space Adventures

[http://www.](http://www.spaceadventures.com)

spaceadventures.com is the only company to have launched private space explorers to the ISS. Several former NASA astronauts serve on the company's advisory board.

#### Tech Support:

*Customer: I have problems  
printing in red...*

*Tech support: Do you have  
a colour printer?*

*Customer: Aaaah.....  
thank you.*

**Halifax Amateur Radio Club  
Minutes of the General Monthly  
Meeting of Wednesday,  
October 19th. 2005**

President Bill (VE1MR) called the meeting to order at 1935.

Executive in attendance:

Bill Elliott (VE1MR) – President; Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO) – First Vice-president; Darryl Perrin (VE1HUP) – Second Vice-president; Howard Dickson (VE1DHD) – Secretary; John Goodwin (VE1CDD) – Treasurer; Pat Kavanaugh (VE1PHK) – Station Manager, and Dick Grantham (VE1AI) Past-president.

Regrets: Tom Caithness (VE1GTC) – Member-at-Large

Silent Keys: None

Guests: Marc LeBlanc; Karen Peori; Frank Wilson – all new Associate Club members and members of the 2005/2006 Basic Amateur Radio Class.

Minutes of the monthly meeting of September 21st, 2005:

MOTION - Approval of the minutes of the September monthly meeting as published in the October 2005 Reflector was moved by Murray (VE1MMD) and seconded by Dave (VE1EDA). Motion carried.

**Executive Reports:**

Treasurer – John (VE1CDD) reported a September 30th bank balance of \$9,859.88. A hard copy of the report is appended to the hard copy of these minutes. John reported that the sale of used equipment had netted the Club in excess of \$4000 this year; that represents over \$3000 above the budgeted income of \$1000 from equipment sales.

MOTION – acceptance of the Treasurer's Report was moved by Tom (VE1TA) and seconded by Peter (VE1PJW). Motion carried.

Secretary – Howard (VE1DHD) passed on the regrets of Scott (VE1QD) who had asked him to report on the Basic Ham Class. There are sixteen students registered and the course is progressing well.

Howard also informed the membership that he had been unable to secure 20 individuals interested in getting QSL cards printed and so went to Dennis Livesey in Vancouver to have four cards printed. Dennis does an excellent job and is an easy person to work with.

Howard also reminded the members that the Club had some Generic Cards printed

and that they could be purchased for \$2.50/10 cards.

President – Bill (VE1MR) reported on the immediate availability of temporary ground-floor storage space in the Fielding Building in Burnside, with a commitment to permanent storage within two or three months. Brian (VE1AZV) agreed to go to the site and get the keys, and to head up a work party to start getting Club equipment moved from the Bloomfield Centre and Bill's garage and front lawn, over to Burnside.

Bill also asked for volunteers to assist Peter (VE1PJW) as chair of the 2006 Nominating Committee. There were no volunteers.

Bill informed the membership that the Club Constitution had been re-typed by John (VE1CDD) and reformatted in booklet form. Some hard copies were available for those without internet access; an electronic version will be sent to all members on the email mailing list.

First Vice-president – Fraser (VE1WO) reported that the attendance at the Greenwood flea market this month had been disappointingly low. However, there were a number of Hams that had recently been grandfathered onto the HF bands who were interested in used equipment and the Club sold \$700 worth of equipment at Greenwood.

As for Callbook sales, they sold six at Greenwood, bringing the total sales for the 2004 Callbook to 972 with 228 left to sell.

Second Vice-president – Darryl (VE1HUP) informed the membership that the speaker for the evening was going to be Dick Grantham – VE1AI, speaking on QSLing. He also indicated that the door prize for the evening was an emergency automobile safety kit.

Station Manager - Pat (VE1PHK) had nothing to report.

Member-at-Large – absent.

Past-president – Dick (VE1AI) reported on a very successful International Search & Rescue competition weekend. There is a detailed write-up on VA1ISAR in the October Reflector and in the October 22nd edition of the Canadian Amateur Radio Bulletin – www.hfradio.net.

Dick also mentioned that Ed Hammond from Cushcraft had informed him that he would be willing to donate two boxes of his book on Amateur Radio to the Halifax ARC if the HARC President were to

write to him. Howard agreed to draft a letter for Bill's signature.

ACTION >>> Howard

**Committee Reports:**

Public Relations – Wayne (VE1WPH) was present and set up the long-awaited display frame that he had constructed for Club use. Wayne also indicated that ARIS was looking for volunteers to be trained on the Telebridge system so that they could assist in linking schools into Amateur Radio contacts with the ISS. The plan is to have up to three school contacts with the ISS each week. Wayne also indicated that the Sir John A. McDonald high school had been approved for an ARIS contact and that the decision had been made to hold that contact in conjunction with the opening of the new Sir John A. school in 2006, thus providing an excellent local opportunity to promote Amateur Radio.

Membership – Tom (VE1GTC) was absent.

Search & Rescue – Dave (VE1AJP) reported a quiet month. He also informed the membership that the Ground S&R team had been testing the new Kenwood GPS/microphone units. These are compact and user friendly units, but are not yet commercially available. Dave also reported that 149.080 MHz has been designated as the National first responders emergency frequency for Ground S&R; unfortunately in NS all S&R units have gone to the 800 MHz trunked system.

EMO – Dave (VE1AJP) reported that he has developed and had approved a document that outlines how permanent Amateur Radio stations should be established at remote sites (such as hospitals and radio stations); the document outlines the expectations of the providers in terms of equipment; power and antennas. Dave is in the process of trying to get the current station at the VGH site moved over to the New Infirmary site.

Flea Market 2005 – Murray (VE1MMD) has agreed to chair the 2006 Down East Flea Market that will take place on Saturday May 13th, 2006.

Birth Notice – Jason – VE1PLF – is the proud father of "Kyle" a daughter born last week.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

Callbook Production – Bill (VE1MR) posed the question – "Should we proceed

(Continued on page 7)

(Minutes Continued from page 6)

with plans to produce a callbook in 2007?" There was some discussion concerning the fact that the 2004 book had not yet sold out, as well as financial implications for the Club should the book not be produced in 2007 as planned. The Club counts on profits from the Callbook to help support Club activities. The Treasurer indicated that with the unexpected increased sale of used equipment this year the Club is in a good financial position and could manage financially if the decision was to wait until 2008 to publish the next Callbook. Bill also pointed out that 2008 would be the 75th anniversary of HARC and that this might make production of the Callbook in that same year very attractive. In any event, Bill pointed out that there is a need to identify the person who would serve as Editor for the Callbook and get the process underway. There were no immediate offers to serve as Editor.

**HF Seminar / Workshop** - President Bill and Pat (VE1PHK) indicated that there had been no written feedback in response to the request in the October Reflector for suggestion for an HF Seminar and Workshop that the Club would like to hold. Only six people at the meeting expressed interest in such a training session for new HF users. It was suggested that those who would like to get onto HF but currently don't have equipment or require some coaching should contact the Executive with a list of their perceived needs. A course could be offered in the spring if there is sufficient interest.

**Climbing Safety Course** - Terry (VE1TRB) pointed out that the climbing certificates that he and Pat (VE1PHK) hold expire this year and both need to be re-certified if they are to be able to climb and assist Club members by doing tower and antenna work. Bill pointed out that one other Club member (Gary - VE1RGB) had contacted him to express an interest in taking the Climbing Safety course as well. The next course will take place in November. Terry (VE1TRB) also pointed out that Barry Manual was trying to work out an arrangement whereby the HRM Fire Service might offer a course that would be sponsored by the EMO. There was no clear indication if or when such an arrangement might be firmed up, or when that course might be offered.

**Motion** - Tom (VE1TA) moved and Murray (VE1MMD) seconded that HARC pay for the certification of three Club climbers.

Concern was expressed by one member present that the decision on who was to be trained had already been made by the Executive and that the membership was not going to have any input. The President assured the membership that no decision had been made but rather the Executive had tried to come up with the names of individuals who might benefit from formal climbing safety training.

It was pointed out that the Club can not afford to train everyone who might be interested. There was also an expectation that those who are trained would have the time available to offer their assistance to Club members and that they would have additional technical skills so that they could work effectively on antenna equipment while up a tower.

There are currently three trained and certified climbers in the Club - Terry (VE1TRB); Pat (VE1PHK) and Bob (VE1VCK). Bob indicated that he preferred to pay for his own course because he his certification is required as part of his business.

**Withdrawal of Motion** - On a request by both the mover and

second, the motion by Tom and Murray was withdrawn.

**Motion** - Moved by Murray (VE1MMD) and seconded by Tom (VE1TA) that the Club sponsor three climbers for the November 2005 Climbing Safety course out of the current Club budget and that in future years the Club budget for the certification of three climbers each year. Carried

The President requested that those individuals who wished to take the Climbing Safety course and receive support from the Club to do so, should submit a formal request to the Club Executive. If and when the EMO and Fire Service come up with a plan to train and certify climbers, the Club could sponsor members for future courses. In the mean time, there is an urgent requirement to get Terry and Pat re-certified. It was also pointed out that Gary (VE1RGB) has already had some tower climbing experience, has purchased his own fall-arrest equipment, and has formally requested assistance in getting certified.

**Motion** - It was moved by Tom (VE1TA) and seconded by Bob (VE1VCK) that Pat (VE1PHK); Terry (VE1TRB) and Gary (VE1RGB) be the three individuals that the Halifax ARC support in 2005 for the Climbing Safety Course.

### Reports & Announcements:

**Repeater Plotting** - Rob (VE1KS) reported that he has plotted all of the local repeaters on Google Earth, but a copy of the program must first be downloaded from Google. See the HARC web site for further information.

**JOTA 2005** - Andrew (VE1VAC) reported on a successful day with the Boy Scouts at Camp Harris for the 2005 Jamboree on the Air. He and Doug (VE1LDL) were able to set up both HF and VHF stations, and all scouts had an opportunity to make at least one contact. Thanks to Dick (VE1AI) for the loan of a 20-metre dipole and the three interlocking 10-foot pipe sections that were used for the antenna mast. Bill (VE1MR) reported that he had requested the organizers of the Greenwood flea market to change the date for their event in the future so it does not conflict with JOTA.

**50:50 Draw** - the draw (\$23.50) was won by John (VE1HMH).

**Door Prizes** - Pierre (VE1PTR) was the winner of the auto safety kit.

**Motion** - Moved by Peter (VE1PJW) that the meeting be adjourned.

There was a 15-minute social and refreshment break, followed by a talk on QSLing by Dick (VE1AI), assisted by Howard (VE1DHD).

Respectfully submitted by: D. Howard Dickson - VE1DHD,  
Secretary, Halifax Amateur Radio Club

*Ham's Night Before Christmas (Continued from page 4)*

He made final adjustments, and left a card by the key:  
"To Gary, from Santa Claus. Seventy-Three."

Then he grabbed his HT, looked me straight in the eye,  
Punched a code on the pad, and was gone - no good bye.

I ran back to the station, and the pile-up was big,  
But a card from St. Nick would be worth my new rig.

Oh, too late, for his final came over the air.  
It was copied all over. It was heard everywhere.

The Ham's Santa exclaimed what a ham might expect,  
"Merry Christmas to all, and to all, good DX."

Darryl Perrin, VE1HUP





**Photos of some summer & fall 2005 ham radio activities**



The 2005 DX Forum, held at Nautel's facility in Hackett's Cove was a first-class event. The guest speakers, the panel discussion and the Nautel tour all made the day fly by too quickly



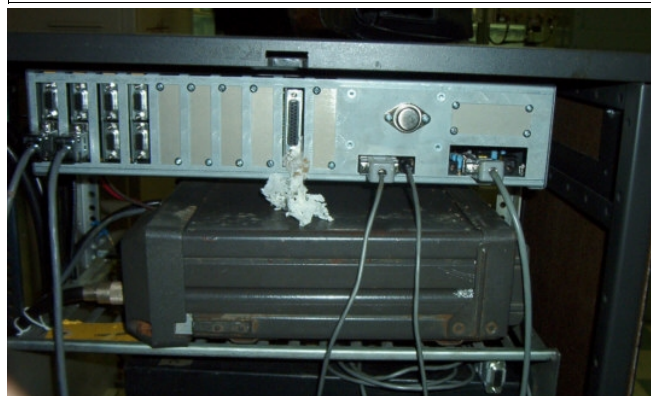
Betty, VE1BSW, was the communicator for "First Aid One" during the MS Bike Tour



The HARC table did a brisk business at the Greenwood Fleamarket

*Why do we press harder on a remote control when we know the batteries are getting weak?*

October, 2005 – An enterprising mouse was planning to spend the winter snug & warm inside the VE1XK repeater at the Nutby site. But mice, you see, have no concept of a proper location for the latrine. So it was lucky that before the repeater and mouse went up in smoke, Tom, VE1TA & Bill, VE1MR, arrived, discovered the little squatter's homestead, cleaned up the debris and sealed the mouse-sized access holes.



*Rear view of repeater – First clue; crumpled tissue.*



*Inside view of repeater - Crumpled tissue makes a comfy bed for a mouse. Fortunately, most of the mouse's liquid waste was on the metal of the chassis bottom, left in this photo.*

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 24, No. 42

October 28, 2005

Portions of Handbook on Emergency Telecommunications now available: The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has made significant portions of the 2005 edition of its Handbook on Emergency Telecommunications available for free download in English, French or Spanish. The ITU says the Handbook is designed to serve as a close companion to those involved in providing and using telecommunications for disaster mitigation and relief. Details are on the ITU Web site

<http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/emergencytelecoms/publications.html>

*Why doesn't glue stick to the bottle?*



Set up at the Canadian Coast Guard Base in Dartmouth for the **International Search and Rescue (ISAR) Competition** Sept. 29 to Oct 1, 2005

The HARC was invited to operate a special event station to commemorate the occasion. We acquired a special call sign, VA1ISAR which we used from the Canadian Coast Guard base in Dartmouth and from Acadia at the Maritime Museum in Halifax. Thirty hams participated in this event

*Bravo Zulu to Club co-ordinators for the special event station, Dick, VE1AI, and Scott, VE1QD and to all the participants who helped to make our involvement fun and successful. -ed..*



### Answer to puzzler on page 3

Courtesy VE5SJA-

- "Doherty Modulation is a modified linear amplifier, low level modulated at the driver stages. What distinguishes it from others is that it uses two RF output tubes, one which handles the carrier and the negative modulation swings (the "Carrier tube") and the other tube (the "Peak Tube"), which normally is cut off, but goes into action during the positive peaks of modulation."



Operating at the station set up inside the Halifax Regional Search & Rescue Command Centre vehicle

**Unfortunately no-one took any pictures at Jamboree On The Air 2005** at Camp Harris, Saturday, Oct.15. It was a successful & enjoyable event for the participants.

Phil Kempton, Dartmouth Assistant Regional Commissioner, had invited us to come out, set up a station, speak briefly to the Scouts at the start of the event to explain what we would be doing and how the radios work, etc. and operate them.

Since JOTA coincided with the Greenwood fleamarket it didn't look as if anyone would be available & willing to do JOTA until Andrew, VE1VAC, came forward, believing in the importance of this event. He was joined by Doug, VE1LDL, and they were able to set up both HF and VHF stations,. All of the scouts had an opportunity to make at least one contact.

For more information on this global event see website:

[www.zonnet.nl/worldscout/](http://www.zonnet.nl/worldscout/)

Tune in to the **EMO NET** conducted by David, VE1EDA, each Sunday evening at 1930 local (7:30 PM) on VE1PSR repeater (147.27).

Visit the Marconi Radio Club of Newfoundland (MRCN) Web site

<http://www.ucs.mun.ca/~jcraig/mrcn.html>

The Club station's call is VO1MRC

### RAC Bulletin 05-018: RAC Board Elects Executive Officers for 2006-2007

The RAC Board of Directors met by teleconference call on Sunday, October 16, 2005 to elect the Executive Officers for 2006-2007. The meeting was convened by Nomination Chair Ken Oelke VE6AFO. As a result of the election process, the following people will take office commencing January 1, 2006:

1. Earle Smith VE6NM, President
2. John Iliffe VE3CES, 1st Vice President
3. Robert (Bob) Cooke VE3BDB, Vice President Field Services
4. Joe Parkinson VE3JG, Vice President Industrial Liaison
5. Daniel Lamoureux VE2KA, Vice President International Affairs
6. Susan Cooke VE3SUH, Secretary

### RAC Bulletin 05-019: Ontario Section Manager Appointed

Vice President Field Services Pierre Mainville VA3PM is pleased to announce the appointment of Allan Boyd VE3AJB as Ontario Section Manager, effective immediately.

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 24, No. 38  
September 30, 2005

# IARU EYES GLOBAL COORDINATION OF AMATEUR RADIO'S BPL/EMC RESPONSE

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Administrative Council will explore ways to improve the coordination of Amateur Radio's representation on electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) issues at national, regional and global forums. Meeting September 17-18 in Zurich, Switzerland, the Council also made further progress firming up plans to deal with Amateur Radio-related issues at World Radiocommunication Conference 2007 (WRC-07).

The Council requested the International Secretariat (ARRL)--in conjunction with the EMC advisor--seek ways to better harmonize Amateur Radio's EMC response at meetings and conferences. The study, prompted mainly by concerns about interference from broadband over power line (BPL), is to be completed by year's end. The objective is to recommend steps, subject to Council approval, to arrive at a more unified Amateur Radio position regarding BPL and EMC and to "maintain a favorable EMC environment for radio services."

At its October 2004 session, the Administrative Council adopted a resolution concerning potential interference to radio services from BPL systems. The Council resolved to urge member-societies to make national administrations and standards bodies aware of their obligations under the international Radio Regulations. Those rules, in part, call on administrations to "take all practicable and necessary steps to ensure that the operation of electrical apparatus or installations of any kind, including power and telecommunication distribution networks . . . does not cause harmful interference to a radiocommunication service."

A principal focus was on WRC-07 preparations. The Administrative Council affirmed the IARU's positions on agenda items. WRC-07 issues facing Amateur Radio include the possible identification of additional HF spectrum between 4 and 10 MHz for broadcasting, which could put pressure on other services. A possible international amateur allocation in the vicinity of 136 kHz is also on the agenda.

In other business, the Council established a small working group to develop an international emergency communications handbook for radio amateurs based on existing texts. The International Secretariat (ARRL) was asked to produce a brochure on Amateur Radio response to emergencies

From: Canadian\_Amateur\_Radio\_Group@yahoo.com  
On Behalf Of Sohail Anjum - VE3ITU

The 135.7-137.8 (2200 metre) Amateur Band

An exact count is hard to find, but at the present time, somewhere between 25 and 35 countries have agreed to allow their amateurs to communicate in the band 135.7-137.8 kHz. Canada and the USA are among the countries which have turned down a request for a domestic allocation. In Canada, Industry Canada has given approval for a few amateurs to experiment within the band, subject to rather tight restrictions. The main purpose of the experimental operation is to study propagation at these frequencies, and a secondary purpose is to determine if amateurs cause any interference to other users of the band.

A world wide allocation of the band 135.7 - 137.8 kHz to Amateur Radio was proposed by Canada in 2003 but was not approved because some countries were worried about possible interference to existing spectrum users. Canada did succeed however in getting the item placed on the Agenda for the next Conference in 2007, where it appears as Agenda item 1.15 .

In preparation for the conference, studies are underway at the ITU in Geneva to settle the question of possible interference. The 135 kHz studies have been assigned to Working Party 8A of Study Group 8 which is responsible for the Amateur and Mobile services. At meetings in Sept. 2004, The IARU introduced a proposal that the band be approved, and explaining why interference was not likely. Other Working Parties, representing the fixed and radiolocation services, have been asked to comment. One encouraging result was that spokespersons for CEPT representing most European countries, stated that they fully support the IARU proposal.

RAC has decided to stay with the same proposal put forward to WRC- 03, and to participate in the studies. This position has been introduced at a meeting with Industry Canada, and the various interested parties in Canada have begun to discuss the issue once again. It is likely that Canada will once again support the proposal at the WRC if the studies show that the danger of interference in Canada is acceptable.

It is unlikely that the US will actively support the proposal, since the FCC has already decided that the potential for interference in the USA is not acceptable. This decision was reached after the electrical utilities industry lobbied the FCC against the proposal.

A first step towards gaining a favourable decision at WRC 2007, will be to seek support in CITEL from a majority of countries in our Region (the Americas). CITEL is the forum where countries in our Region attempt to get together to prepare a united front to take to the WRC on issues of importance. In 2003, CITEL was supportive of the 135 kHz proposal. Canada has again put the item on the table for discussion.

*Customer: Hi, this is Celine. I can't get my diskette out.*

*Tech support: Have you tried pushing the button?*

*Customer: Yes, sure, it's really stuck.*

*Tech support: That doesn't sound good; I'll make a note.*

*Customer: No .. wait a minute... I hadn't inserted it yet... it's still on my desk... sorry....*

